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suppl.

RICHARDSON NAMED BIG SKY PLAYER OF THE WEEK
rosenthal/gf

MISSOULA--

University of Montana all-America candidate, Michael Ray Richardson has been named Big Sky Conference basketball player of the week, according to conference officials in Boise, Idaho.

It's the second time he has won the award this season and the third time for a Grizzly.

Richardson, a 6-5 guard from Denver, scored 52 points in Montana's weekend wins over Northern Arizona and Weber State on the road. The wins keep Montana tied for first place with Idaho State in the conference. Each team is 10-2 in league play.

In addition to his 52 points, "Sugar Ray" hit 57.8% of his shots over the weekend (26 of 45), had 12 rebounds and 7 steals from his guard spot.

M.R. saved the real heroics for the final moments of the Weber State game, when he made a 40 foot jumper at the buzzer to end regulation play at 51-51. He then went on to score the winning bucket in overtime, giving UM a 58-56 win. Richardson had 30 points following the 22 he scored Thursday night, in an 81-72 win over Northern Arizona.

With his 52 points, Michael Ray is closing in on Bob Cope's all-time scoring record at Montana. Richardson has 1,720 career points, 88 points behind Cope, who scored 1,808 from 1947-50. With three regular season games remaining and at least one post-season game left, Richardson should have a good chance to become Montana's all-time scoring leader.

The senior standout has also scored 500 or more points for the second straight season. He now has 515 points this year. He scored 500 even last season. His performance so

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far this year ranks third on the single season scoring list. Ken McKenzie scored 518 points in 29 games during the 1974-75 season. Cope had 701 points in 31 games during the 1949-50 season.

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